

REMARKS

Claims 1-9 are pending in this application. Claims 10-18 were previously cancelled. No claims have been amended.

Claims 1-9 have been provisionally rejected based on the judicially created doctrine of nonstatutory double patenting over claims 1-9 of U.S. Patent Appl. No. 10/501,498. To address this rejection, Applicant is submitting a Terminal Disclaimer over any patent which issues from the cited patent application with this Response.

Applicant thanks the Examiner for withdrawing the rejection of claims 1-9 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a).

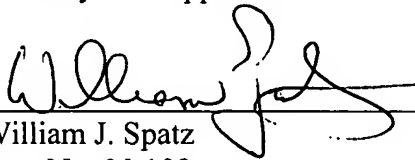
Since the within Terminal Disclaimer is believed to overcome all outstanding rejections, favorable reconsideration of the application and prompt issuance of a Notice of Allowance for all pending claims are earnestly solicited.

If the Examiner believes that there are any issues still pending which present an impediment to allowance, it is respectfully requested that the undersigned be contacted by telephone to conduct a telephone interview.

If additional fees are due, the Commissioner is authorized to charge the same to Deposit Account No. 50-0540.

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